IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A reproducing apparatus comprising:

reproducing means for reproducing video data and audio data;

viewpoint detecting means for detecting a viewpoint direction of eyes of a user relative to said reproducing means and providing a viewpoint output;

discriminating means for discriminating a degree of an interest of said user in the video data and the audio data ~~which are reproduced from detection information obtained by~~ based on said viewpoint ~~detecting means~~ output; and

control means for changing at least one reproducing ~~characteristics~~ characteristic of at least either of said video data and said audio data based on ~~the basis of~~ a discrimination result obtained from said discriminating means.

2. (Currently amended) [[A]] The reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said viewpoint detecting means ~~is~~ includes means for detecting ~~a target of the viewpoint~~ user eye movement.

3. (Currently amended) [[A]] The reproducing apparatus according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein said ~~target of the viewpoint is~~ reproducing means includes a display on which said video data is displayed and said detecting a viewpoint direction of the eyes of the user is done relative to said display of said reproducing means.

Claim 4 (Canceled).

5. (Currently amended) A reproducing apparatus ~~according to claim 1~~ comprising:

reproducing means for reproducing video data and audio data;

viewpoint detecting means for detecting a viewpoint of a user;

discriminating means for discriminating a degree of an interest of said user in the video data and the audio data which are reproduced from detection information obtained by said viewpoint detecting means; and

control means for changing reproducing characteristics of at least either of said video data and said audio data on the basis of a discrimination result obtained from said discriminating means,

wherein said discriminating means discriminates a state of said user on the basis of a ratio at which the viewpoint is detected for a predetermined time by said viewpoint detecting means.

6. (Currently amended) [[A]] The reproducing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said control means reproduces the video data when the ratio of the viewpoint which is detected by said discriminating means is large, and said control means stops the reproduction of said video data and reproduces data other than said video data when the ratio of the viewpoint is small.

7. (Currently amended) [[A]] The reproducing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said discriminating means discriminates at least two of the following three states:

a first state where the user monitors the reproduced video data and audio data;

a second state where the user monitors the reproduced video data and audio data while doing another work; and

a third state where the user concentrates on said another work.

8. (Currently amended) [[A]] The reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means controls ~~the~~ at least one reproducing ~~characteristics~~ characteristic of the audio data.

9. (Currently amended)[[A]] The reproducing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said control means controls a sound volume level of said audio data on the basis of said discrimination result.

10. (Currently amended) [[A]] The reproducing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said control means changes a frequency band of said audio data on the basis of said discrimination result.

11. (Currently amended) [[A]] The reproducing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said control means executes emphasis or suppression of a predetermined frequency band of said audio data on the basis of said discrimination result.

12. (Currently amended) [[A]] The reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means controls ~~the~~ at least one reproducing ~~characteristics~~ characteristic of the video data.

13. (Currently amended) [[A]] The reproducing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said control means controls a luminance level of said video data on the basis of said discrimination result.

14. (Currently amended) [[A]] The reproducing apparatus according to claim 12, said control means controls resolution of said video data on the basis of said discrimination result.

15. (Currently amended) A reproducing method comprising:

a step of reproducing one or both of video data and audio data from a reproducing device;

a ~~viewpoint detecting~~ step of detecting [[a]] at least one viewpoint direction of eyes of a user relative to said reproducing device and outputting an indication of said at least one viewpoint direction;

a ~~discriminating~~ step of discriminating a degree of an interest of the user in the one or both of video data and audio data which are reproduced from the reproducing device based on ~~detection information obtained by~~ said indication of said at least one viewpoint ~~detecting step~~ direction; and

a control step of changing at least one reproducing ~~characteristics~~ characteristic of at least either of said video data and said audio data on the basis of a discrimination result obtained from said step of discriminating ~~step~~.

16. (Currently amended) [[A]] The reproducing method according to claim 15, wherein said ~~viewpoint~~ step of detecting ~~step is a step of~~ includes detecting ~~a target of the viewpoint~~ user eye movement.

Claim 17 (Canceled).

18. (Currently amended) A reproducing method ~~according to claim 15~~ comprising:

a viewpoint detecting step of detecting a viewpoint of a user;

a discriminating step of discriminating a degree of an interest of the user in video data and audio data which are reproduced from detection information obtained by said viewpoint detecting step; and

a control step of changing reproducing characteristics of at least either of said video data and said audio data on the basis of a discrimination result obtained from said discriminating step,

wherein said discriminating step is a step of ~~discriminates~~ discriminating a state of said user on the basis of a ratio at which the viewpoint is detected for a predetermined time by said viewpoint detecting step.

19. A reproducing method according to claim 18, wherein in said discriminating step, at least two of the following three states are discriminated:

a first state where the user monitors the reproduced video data and audio data;

a second state where the user monitors said reproduced video data and audio data while doing another work; and

a third state where the user concentrates on said another work.

20. (New) A reproducing apparatus comprising:

a reproducing device configured to reproduce one or both of video data and audio data;

an eye viewpoint detector configured to detect a viewpoint direction of eyes of a user relative to said reproducing device and providing an eye viewpoint output;

a discriminating unit configured to discriminate a degree of an interest of said user in the one or both of the video data and the audio data being reproduced by the reproducing device based on said eye viewpoint output; and

a controller configured to change reproducing characteristics of at least either of said video data and said audio data based on a discrimination result obtained from said discriminating unit.

21. (New) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said eye viewpoint detector includes a detector to detect user eye movement.

22. (New) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said controller is configured to control a reproducing characteristic of the audio data.

23. (New) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said controller is configured to control a reproducing characteristic of the video data.